

BOOK NOTICE

The Genus Conotrachelus Dejean (Coleoptera, Curculionidæ) in the North Central United States. By Herbert Frederick Schoof. The University of Illinois Press, Urbana, Illinois, 1942. 26.5 × 17.5 cm. 170 p. 9 pl. Paper covers. Price \$1.50.

Illinois Biological Monographs are always noteworthy and the present one, which is No. 3 of Volume XIX is no exception. It should be welcomed by taxonomists and also by economic entomologists because of the economic importance of several species of *Conotrachelus*. On the basis of morphological characters, which included the body regions and their appendages, color and vestiture, secondary sex characters and male genitalia, and after a study of the relative importance of each, the author divides the genus into four groups as opposed to six groups by previous authors. These four groups indicate the phylogenetic relations of the species more clearly. Keys to the groups and to the species within each group are provided and each species is described or redescribed on the basis of external morphological structures and male genitalia. In addition there is a discussion of the distribution, biology, phylogeny and nomenclature of each species. A bibliography and nine plates of ædeagi and other taxonomic structures complete this excellent monograph which includes 29 species, six of which are described as new. I know that there must have been good reasons for limiting this study to the species of the North Central United States, but I can't help mentioning the well-known fact that the users of these monographs are continually in need of such worthwhile treatments for, at least, the country as a whole. But until taxonomists are more richly rewarded, I fear that we shall have to take what we can get and be thankful for it.—H. B. WEISS.